

Express Mail No.: EV336660516US
International Application No.: PCT/US2004/025047
International Filing Date: July 30, 2004
Preliminary Amendment
Substitute Specification

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for use in measuring material, comprising:

a transparent substrate of rigid material having a plurality of lines formed thereon; and

a transparent, non-removable coating on a working surface of the transparent substrate of rigid material, the coating configured to resist slipping of the device on the material to be measured.

2. (Currently Amended) The tool of claim 1 wherein the lines are applied to the working surface of the substrate, and the coating is applied ~~only over~~ selected lines of the plurality of lines.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A method making a device for use in measuring material, comprising:~~

~~providing a substrate of rigid material;~~

~~forming a plurality of lines on the substrate;~~

~~applying a transparent coating to at least a portion of a working surface of the substrate to provide a non-slip bearing surface when placed on the material.~~ The tool of claim 1 wherein the coating is mixed with pigment and applied as at least one line on the transparent substrate.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~device of claim 3[[,]] wherein the coating is applied ~~in liquid form to the working surface~~ as at least one line of a first color on the transparent substrate in combination with at least one other line of a contrasting color to form a composite line of contrasting colors.

5. (New) The device of claim 4 wherein the composite line is formed of colinear composite line segments, the line segments separated by spaces having no lines formed therein.

6. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the pigment is configured to enhance visibility of the line in a low-light condition.

7. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the pigment is configured to present a neon effect when applied to the transparent substrate.

8. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the coating comprises material that has a high coefficient of friction and does not attract dust or lint or the material to be measured.

9. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the plurality of lines comprise at least one composite line formed of at least two lines of contrasting color.

10. (New) A method making a device for use in measuring material, comprising:

providing a substrate of rigid material;

forming a plurality of lines on the substrate; and

applying a transparent coating to at least a portion of a working surface of the substrate to provide a non-slip bearing surface when placed on the material to be measured.

11. (New) The method of claim 10 wherein the coating is applied in liquid form to the working surface of the substrate and then dried.

12. (New) A method of making a device for use in measuring, marking, and cutting material, the method comprising:

providing a transparent substrate having a plurality of composite lines, each composite line formed of at least two lines of contrasting colors to enhance visibility of the composite line; and

applying a transparent, non-removable substance on at least a portion of a surface of the transparent substrate, the substance having a high coefficient of friction with respect to the material to resist slipping of the substrate on the material.

13. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein applying the substance comprises applying the substance to a working surface of the substrate in a liquid form and then drying the substance.

14. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein applying the substance comprises mixing the substance with a pigment and applying the substance in the form of a line.

15. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein applying the substance in the form of a line to a working surface of the transparent substrate comprises forming the

line to be of one color and associating the line with another line of contrasting color to form a composite line of enhanced visibility.

16. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein the pigment provides a neon effect to the substance.

17. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein the substance is applied to coat an entire working surface of the transparent substrate.

18. (New) The method of claim 12 wherein the substance is formed of material that is initially in liquid form when applied to the substrate and then dried to form a surface having a high coefficient of friction that does not attract dust or lint or the material.

19. (New) A tool, comprising:
a transparent substrate having a plurality of opaque lines formed on at least one surface thereof;
a plurality of composite lines formed of a first line of a first color and a second line of a second color that contrasts with the first color to form composite lines of enhanced visibility, the composite lines formed of a pigment that enhances the visibility of the composite lines in a low-light condition; and
a transparent, non-removable substance applied to the transparent substrate, the substance configured to resist slipping of the tool.

20. (New) The tool of claim 19 wherein the pigment comprises a pigment that presents a neon effect to enhance the visibility of the composite lines.

21. (New) The tool of claim 19 wherein the plurality of opaque lines and the plurality of composite lines are applied to a working surface of the transparent substrate, and the substance is applied over the lines on the working surface of the substrate.

22. (New) The tool of claim 21 wherein the substance is applied only over selected lines of the plurality of opaque lines and composite lines on the transparent substrate.

23. (New) The tool of claim 21 wherein the substance is applied as a coating over the entire working surface of the substrate.

24. (New) The tool of claim 19, comprising the substance mixed with pigment and applied as at least one line on the transparent substrate.

25. (New) The tool of claim 24 wherein the at least one line comprised of the substance mixed with pigment is applied over an existing line on the transparent substrate to protect the existing line and to provide a non-slip surface for the transparent substrate.

26. (New) A tool for measuring and marking material and for guiding a hand-held cutting tool, comprising:

a transparent substrate having mutually-opposing planar front and back surfaces and formed of a thickness that is adapted to guide a hand-cutting tool;

a least one composite line formed on one of the front and back surfaces of the transparent substrate, the composite line formed of at least first and second lines of contrasting color; and

a transparent, non-slip, non-removable substance applied on the transparent substrate to provide a non-slip surface that resists slipping of the transparent substrate on the material.

27. (New) The tool of claim 26 wherein the substance is applied to the transparent substrate in liquid form and dried, and the substance has a high coefficient of friction when dried and does not attract lint or dust or the material.

28. (New) The tool of claim 26 wherein the substance is tinted.

29. (New) A tool for measuring and marking material and for guiding a hand-held cutting tool, comprising:

a transparent substrate having mutually-opposing planar front and back surfaces and formed of a thickness that is adapted to guide the hand-held rotary cutting tool; and

a plurality of lines formed on one of the front and back surfaces of the transparent substrate, at least one of the plurality of lines formed of a non-removable substance having a high coefficient of friction to resist slipping when the tool is applied to the material, the substance adapted to not attract dust or lint or the material.

30. (New) The tool of claim 29 wherein the substance is applied only over selected lines of the plurality of lines.

31. (New) The tool of claim 30 wherein the plurality of lines are applied on the transparent substrate and the substance is applied on top of the plurality of lines to protect the plurality of lines and to provide a non-slip surface.

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32. (New) The tool of claim 31 wherein the substance is mixed with a pigment and applied as a line in conjunction with one of the plurality of lines to form a composite line of contrasting colors, the pigment enhancing the visibility of the composite line.

33. (New) The tool of claim 32 wherein the pigment is configured to present a neon effect to the composite line.